

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of forming battery grids or plates that includes the step of applying a lead alloy coating to a continuous strip of interconnected battery grids formed from a lead alloy grid material is disclosed. The battery grids may be formed by a continuous battery grid making process such as strip expansion, strip punching, or continuous grid casting. In one version of the method, the grid wires of a continuous strip of battery grids produced by a punching process are immersed in a melt of the lead alloy coating. In another version of the method, the grid wires of a continuous strip of battery grids produced by a punching process are deformed such that the grid wires have a cross-section other than the rectangular cross-section produced by the punching process and the strip of interconnected grids is immersed in a melt of the lead alloy coating. The method increases the cycle life of a battery.